GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4260
ANSWERED ON:16.04.2001
UNUTILIZED AIR STRIPS
ASHOK NAMDEORAO MOHOL;RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether many airstrips are lying unutilized at present;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the amount locked up as a result of non utilisation of these airstrips;

(d) whether the Government are considering some effective steps for the proper utilisation of these airstrips; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a) & (b):- The airports at Donakonda and Cuddappah in Andhra Pradesh, Rupsi and Shella in Assam, Chakulia, Jogbani and Raxaul in Bihar, Panna in Madhya Pradesh and Khowai in Tripura are lying unutilized at present as no plan has been indicated, by scheduled airlines, for air services from these airstrips on account of inadequate air traffic.

(c) :- Most of these airstrips were constructed during World War-II and taken over by Indian Government later. No maintenance has been carried out thereafter as no airline is operating through these airstrips and hence it is not possible to estimate the amount involved in the cost of construction etc. at present.

(d) & (e) :- Airports Authority of India has approved a proposal for transfer of these airstrips to the respective State Governments for aviation activities. No State Government has come forward to accept transfer of these airstrips.